TL 1822-1

Program

May 31, Tuesday

AM Arrival
Registration and Billeting

Noon Press Conference

PM Opening Ceremonies
Welcome Remarks — Renato Constantino Jr., *Chair, Philippine Convenors*
Introduction of Delegates and Guests
Reading of Messages
Formation of Committees
Welcome Dinner

June 1, Wednesday

AM Invocation
Keynote Speeches — Sen. Wigberto Tanada, *Senator, Philippines*

Mdmme.Danielle Mitterand**, *Civil Libertes*

Mdmme. Maria Barrosa**, *First Lady, Portugal*

Chief Justice Marcelo Fernan

PM Cultural Presentation
Panel Presentation - East Timor's Legal Basis for Self-Determination
Presentor — Pedro Pinto Leite, *Secretary-General, IPJET*
Reactors — Chosen Participants

Panel Presentation - Human Rights Analysis of the East Timor Issue
Presentor — Ma. Cecilia Jimenez, *Deputy Secretary-General PAHRA*
Reactors — *Chosen Participants*

June 2, Thursday

AM The East Timor Issue:History, Testimonies,Perspectives
Presentors — Jose Ramos Horta, *Special Representative & Co-Chairman CNRM*

Abilio Araujo, UDT Representative
Fretelin Representative
James Dunn, *Last Australian Consul to East Timor*
Konis Santana ***

PM Cultural Presentation
Workshop - Solidarity Experiences, Expressions and Options

June 3, Friday

AM Free Time
PM The Current Indonesian Climate and Prospects for East Timor Solidarity

Presentor — Princen Poncke, Indonesian Speakers ****

June 4, Saturday

AM Asian and International Solidarity for East Timor

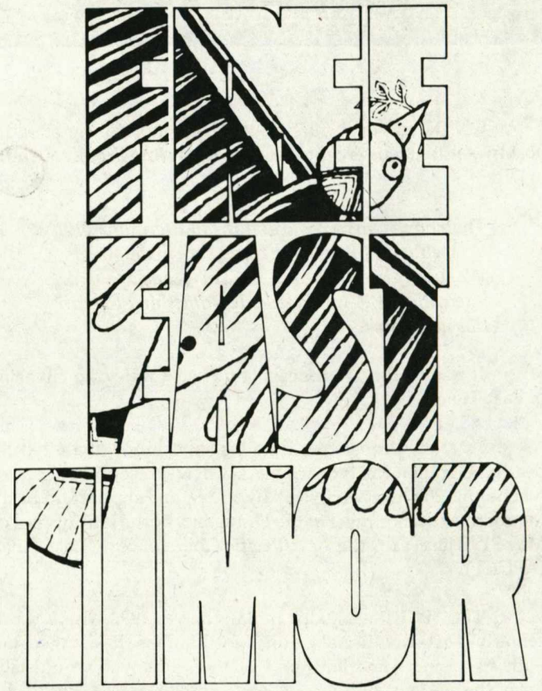
Presentors — Bishop Aloisus Nobuo Soma

PM Plenary
Resolutions
Planning

Closing Speech

Press Conference

* *Subject to change*
** *To be confirmed*
*** *On videotape*
**** *To be announced later*



The Asia-Pacific Conference on East Timor

Malcolm Hall, UP Law Center
University of the Philippines
Diliman, Quezon City
May 31 - June 04, 1994

The East Timor Issue

ON December 7, 1975, journalists monitoring a radio post in Australia intercepted a broadcast from Fretilin's radio in Dili:

> *The Indonesian forces are killing indiscriminately. Women and children are being shot in the streets. We are all going to be killed... This is an appeal for international help. Please do something to stop this invasion."*

It was the day Indonesia launched a full-scale invasion of East Timor.

It took almost two decades and more than 200,000 deaths before that call is heard in Asia. It will resound once more when some 200 human rights advocates and supporters of the Maubere resistance meet at the University of the Philippines on May 31 to June 4 for the Asia-Pacific Conference on East Timor (APCET).

The APCET was born in Bangkok in 1992 when representatives of the National Council for Maubere Resistance, met with Asian and some Filipino NGO workers who would later form the nucleus of what is now known as the Philippine Convenors Group.

Why the Philippines?

THE choice of the Philippines as venue of the conference is not without concrete basis. Among the peoples in Asia, the East Timorese and Filipinos share a lot of common.

Both are predominantly Catholic, owing to centuries of colonization by Iberian powers – Portugal for East Timor, Spain for the Philippines. Both have long history of struggle for freedom and democracy.

In the political field, only the Philippines can offer a relative democratic space in the region vis the possibility of an unbridled media coverage without the danger posed in authoritarian and militarist governments (or so we thought ...)

Manila, the premiere city, is also a gateway to the Pacific offering access to both Asia and the rest of the world. Manila is also home to many a dynamic people's organizations and NGOs concerned with human rights and other people's struggles.

The Philippines has one of the most active people's movement coming from a broad spectrum of resistance in the whole of Asia.

The Convenors

CONVENORS of the conference represent a wide variety of interests and persuasions. International convenors range from academic institutions and established legal organizations to broad coalitions of NGOs and those formed specifically as support groups for the East Timorese struggle.

The Philippine Organizing Group, on the other hand, is comprised of NGOs and political organizations from the broad spectrum of the progressive movement. Backstopping for secretariate and administrative functions is the Initiatives for International Dialogue, an independent and professional Filipino international non-governmental organization working primarily for South-South solidarity and global education.

Asian Council for People's Culture - A network of progressive cultural workers and artists in Asia that provides trainings and other services in the cultural field.

Asian Cultural Forum for Development (ACFOD) - A non-governmental organization that initiates programs on South-South solidarity and cultural exchanges.

British Coalition for East Timor (BCET) - An organization of British advocates for East Timorese struggle for self-determination.

East Timor Action Network (ETAN) - Composed of Americans and Canadians that actively support the East Timorese people.

International Federation for East Timor (IFET) - The forum of various solidarity groups from all around the world on the East Timor issue.

International Platform of Jurists for East Timor (IPJET)- Based in Leiden, The Netherlands, IPJET is an international organization of lawyers and jurists that supports the Timorese people in the exercise of their rights.

Law Asia-Human Rights Standing Committee - Composed of Asian jurists and lawyers concerned with human rights in Asia. Former Philippine Supreme Court Chief Justice Marcelo Fernan is its current president.

National Council for Maubere Resistance (CNRM) - The umbrella organization of East Timorese resistance groups which counts among its members Fretilin and UDT, major Timorese political parties.

Oporto University - Renowned Portuguese academic institution and host of yearly international symposia on East Timor.

Parliamentarians for East Timor- Led by Lord Eric Avebury of Great Britain's House of Lords, PET is composed of legislators from Japan, Australia and Europe who advocate the rights of the Timorese people.

People's Plan for the 21st Century (PP21) - A loose formation of Asia-Pacific NGOs, political organizations, sectoral movements and personalities in forging a people's agenda for the coming century.

Servizio Civile Internationale - Italy-based volunteer group of Europeans that advocates various progressive and humanitarian causes.

TAPOL - London-based Indonesian human rights group.

And other solidarity and advocacy groups for East Timor around the world.

Philippine Convenors Group

Renato Constantino Jr, *Chair*
Atty. Sedfrey Candelaria, *Vice-Chair*
Augusto Miclat Jr, *Coordinator*
Atty. Alexander Padilla, *Legal Counsel*

Members:

- AKSYUN (Coalition for Peace)
- Ateneo University Human Rights Center
- Bukluran para sa Ikauunlad ng Sosyalistang Isip at Gawa (Bisig)
- Consortium for People's Diplomacy
- Council for National Freedom and Democratic Rights (Confreedem)
- Ecumenical Bishops Forum (EBF)
- Lean L. Alejandro Foundation
- Moro Human Rights Center
- Movement for Popular Democracy
- Partido Demokratiko-Sosyalista ng Pilipinas
- Philippine Council for International Solidarity and Peace (PCISP)
- Sandigan ng Lakas at Demokrasya ng Sambayanan (Sanlakas)
- Siglo ng Paglaya (Siglaya)
- Women's Legal Bureau (WLB)

Secretariate: **Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID)**

The Venue

University of the Philippines is the country's premiere university and is generally acknowledged as the seat of progressive academic thought.

It lies northeast of the capital city of Manila, and an hour or so drive from the international airport and accessible to the various points of the metropolis.

The locale offers the tranquil of suburban lifestyle while retaining the comforts and amenities of modern living.

Plenary sessions will be held at the Malcolm Hall, an auditorium at the university's College of Law. Workshops can be accomodated in the same building or in other venues within the campus.